

# Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes

October 10, 2012 at 6:00pm

Attendees: Rick Amodei, Mark Spears, Dave Moreau, Kevin Smith, Noreen Ma (via conference call), Holly Mansfield

Mosquito: Sara Hart

Meeting began at 6:10pm

## **Approval of Minutes for 9/5/12 Meetings:**

Dave Moreau made the motion to approve the amended minutes for 9/5/12 meeting. Mark Spears seconded the motion. All in favor: Yes.

## **Open Space & Recreation / Five Year Plan:**

The purpose of the five year plan is to get state funding. In order to obtain funding the five year plan needs to be in place and updated on a regular basis.

The Recreation Commission put together a list of items to be added to the five year plan. After conferring with the various sport organizations, it is determined that recreation is in need of a Lacrosse Field, Multi-Use Field, Basketball Courts, Tennis Courts and a connecting Bridge between Banta Davis and Spalding Field.

Softball, Baseball, Soccer and Pop Warner are satisfied with the existing fields but Lacrosse needs a field in order to host practices and games.

The town has been talking about outdoor basketball courts for 20 years. The plan would be to build new tennis courts and turn the existing tennis courts next to the school into basketball courts.

The Housing project at Banta Davis continues to be a concern. If the housing goes in at Banta Davis, will water access be an issue. There has been no discussion about how to irrigate the fields once the housing project is complete.

A 4-Phase plan for Banta Davis has already been designed and Mark feels we should continue to move forward with this plan. The plan should be reviewed to decide what parts of the plan could be removed to make this project attainable and to gain the support of the community. For example, the idea of a turf field could be removed. Rick believes that this might now be an acceptable part of the plan because people are now familiar with the turf fields. There is also less maintenance with turf fields. Mark feels that people do not want artificial fields. The plan could be revamped and the cost could be significantly less which may make the project feasible.

There is a special Town Meeting on November 13<sup>th</sup> for the town to purchase property for fields. Housing is trying to sell the plan by purchasing the land for playing fields and in order to construct the housing project on Banta Davis. Mark states that the Recreation Commission needs to express our opinions on the project to indicate that the housing project is incompatible with Recreation. The board needs to get the word out in order to gain the community's support to preserve Banta Davis as a Recreational facility. Mark will draft a letter to put into the Mosquito to state the opinion of the Recreation Commission.

Rick will draft a five year plan for the Open Space and Recreation Plan and forward the plan to the commission for review.

It is also stated in the Open Space and Recreation Plan from 2005 that \$75,000 was appropriated at the 2003 Annual Town Meeting for the construction of four new tennis courts on the Banta Davis field. Holly will speak with Tim to see if this money is still available.

#### **Field Maintenance Contract:**

The field maintenance contract needs to be renewed at least through November in order to pay Dan Moseley for the work he has completed from July 1 to present. We do not need to renew now for the entire year. Renewing the current contract through November will give us time to prepare a new Request for Proposal (RFP). Rick talked with Concord regarding their field maintenance plan and we can incorporate a similar field maintenance schedule into the new RFP.

Kevin Smith made the motion to extend the current field maintenance contract through November 2012 to facilitate payments on invoices. Mark Spears seconded the motion. All in favor: Yes.

#### **Diment Park:**

At the last meeting, Dave Moreau gave the five priority items to Dan Moseley for repair. Dave does not know if these items have been addressed. Rick has a meeting with Dan on Tuesday. Rick plans to go over these items with Dan.

#### **School Playground Structures:**

The playground structures are currently at Banta Davis. Noreen spoke with several parents about the best location for the equipment. Everyone is in agreement that the best location is on the opposite side of the field on the right side of the parking lot.

Noreen will ask around to see if anyone is available to assist with the installation of the equipment. Rick will speak with a few people that have access to major equipment and try and schedule a date to install the playground structure. Once we have a date then Noreen will be able to try and recruit help for the installation.

The best time frame would be spring of 2013.

#### **Next Meeting:**

The next meeting will be scheduled for Monday, November 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm. Please provide any ideas for the agenda. Currently on the agenda we have the following:

- 1) Approval of Minutes from 10/10/12
- 2) Open Space & Recreation / Five Year Plan
- 3) Field Maintenance Contract
- 4) Diment Park Maintenance Plan
- 5) School Playground Structures

The meeting adjourned at 7:00pm